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09/614,652	07/12/2000	Hidemi Sasaki	Q60032	2349

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EXAMINER

GENCO, BRIAN C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2615

DATE MAILED: 10/27/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/614,652

Applicant(s)

SASAKI, HIDEKI

Examiner

Brian C Genco

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 8, and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by (USPN 5,606,420 to Maeda et al.).

In regards to claim 1 Maeda et al., herein Maeda, discloses an electronic still camera comprising a camera section for picking up electronic images of subjects through an image sensor and memorizing digital image data of the electronic images, an a printer section for recording images on recording materials on the basis of the digital image data, characterized by comprising:

a main power source for supplying the camera section and the printer section (e.g., element 109 of Fig. 1; column 8, lines 26-34);

a loading chamber for holding the recording materials in a position for allowing the printing section to print on the recording materials (e.g., element 22a of Figs. 31-38 wherein a printer may be electrically and mechanically connected, wherein the recording materials are held in the printer; column 31, lines 4-10); and

a connection device provided in the loading chamber, for connecting the electronic still camera to an extending device that may be loaded in the loading chamber in place of the

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recording materials, for extending a particular function of the electronic still camera (e.g., Figs. 31-38 wherein elements 23 and 24 are a TV reproduction unit and a display unit respectively and are electrically and mechanically attached to camera 22 through connecting chamber 22a. These extending devices extend the displaying function of the electronic still camera; column 30, line 61 – column 31, line 54).

In regards to claim 8 note that all of the elements are attachable/detachable to the camera.

In regards to claim 11 note that the printer is a thermal printer (e.g., Figs. 6-8).

Claims 1 and 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by (USPN 4,937,676 to Finelli et al.).

In regards to claim 1 Finelli et al., herein Finelli, discloses an electronic still camera comprising a camera section for picking up electronic images of subjects through an image sensor and memorizing digital image data of the electronic images, an a printer section for recording images on recording materials on the basis of the digital image data, characterized by comprising:

a main power source for supplying the camera section and the printer section (e.g., it is inherent that there be a power supply for the camera and printer);

a loading chamber for holding the recording materials in a position for allowing the printing section to print on the recording materials (e.g., element 72 of Fig. 2; column 3, lines 55-68); and

a connection device provided in the loading chamber, for connecting the electronic still camera to an extending device that may be loaded in the loading chamber in place of the

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recording materials, for extending a particular function of the electronic still camera (e.g., elements 78 of Fig. 2; column 4, lines 37-47; column 7, lines 28-46).

In regards to claim 7 Finelli discloses the use of "self-developing film units of a type manufactured by the Polaroid Corporation and well known in the art (column 3, lines 38-40)". The limitations of claim 7 are inherent with the use of the self-developing film. This is evidenced through a detailed description of developing self-developing photographic sheets by USPN 5,802,413 to Stephenson on column 3, lines 46-63.

In regards to claim 8 Examiner notes that the printer and camera can be unattached and reattached multiple times without using the recording materials.

In regards to claim 9 see Fig. 2; column 7, lines 28-46.

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by (USPN 6,091,909 to McIntyre et al.).

In regards to claim 1 McIntyre et al., herein McIntyre, discloses an electronic still camera comprising a camera section for picking up electronic images of subjects through an image sensor and memorizing digital image data of the electronic images, an a printer section for recording images on recording materials on the basis of the digital image data, characterized by comprising:

a main power source for supplying the camera section and the printer section (e.g., element 50 of Figs. 5A and 5B);

a loading chamber for holding the recording materials in a position for allowing the printing section to print on the recording materials (e.g., element 10a of Fig. 7; see Figs. 5A and 5B); and

a connection device provided in the loading chamber, for connecting the electronic still camera to an extending device that may be loaded in the loading chamber in place of the recording materials, for extending a particular function of the electronic still camera (e.g., elements 26 of Figs. 5A and 5B. Examiner notes that batteries 34 shown in Figs. 3 and 4 as being included in the print cartridge 10 meets the limitation above, namely since the limitation discloses that the extending device, e.g., the batteries, **may** be loaded in the loading chamber in place of the recording elements. In this case the extending device is loaded in conjunction with the recording materials. In other words, the limitation that the “extending device may be loaded in the chamber in place of the recording materials” is not limiting to the extending device necessarily being separately loadable in the chamber. As such, as broadly as claimed McIntyre meets all of the claim limitations.).

In regards to claim 2 note that the extending device is batteries 34 in Figs. 3 and 4.

Claims 1, 2, and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by (USPN 6,040,849 to McIntyre et al.).

In regards to claim 1 McIntyre et al., herein McIntyre, discloses an electronic still camera comprising a camera section for picking up electronic images of subjects through an image sensor and memorizing digital image data of the electronic images, an a printer section for recording

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images on recording materials on the basis of the digital image data, characterized by comprising:

a main power source for supplying the camera section and the printer section (e.g., element 50 of Fig. 4);

a loading chamber for holding the recording materials in a position for allowing the printing section to print on the recording materials (e.g., element 10a of Fig. 8; see Fig. 4); and

a connection device provided in the loading chamber, for connecting the electronic still camera to an extending device that may be loaded in the loading chamber in place of the recording materials, for extending a particular function of the electronic still camera (e.g., elements 26 of Fig. 4. Examiner notes that batteries 34 shown in Fig. 3 as being included in the print cartridge 10 meets the limitation above, namely since the limitation discloses that the extending device, e.g., the batteries, **may** be loaded in the loading chamber in place of the recording elements. In this case the extending device is loaded in conjunction with the recording materials. In other words, the limitation that the “extending device may be loaded in the chamber in place of the recording materials” is not limiting to the extending device necessarily being separately loadable in the chamber. As such, as broadly as claimed McIntyre meets all of the claim limitations.).

In regards to claim 2 note that the extending device is batteries 34 in Fig. 3.

In regards to claim 11 note that the printer is a thermal printer (see Figs. 1, 2, 7, and 8).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

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The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claims 2, 3, and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over (USPN 5,606,420 to Maeda et al.) in view of (USPN 5,231,511 to Kodama et al.).

In regards to claim 2 Maeda does not disclose nor preclude having a supplementary power source additionally attachable to the camera. It is known in the art to provide a supplementary power source to a camera through attachment as taught by Kodama et al, herein Kodama. Kodama discloses attaching a player device that is used to both supply power to the camera and to recharge the camera battery (e.g., column 6, lines 37-41; 56-60; column 7, line 62 – column 8, line 10; column 8, lines 50-62; column 9, lines 3-29). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have included the above features to Maeda's TV reproduction unit 23 in order to further extend the battery life of the camera.

In regards to claim 3 see examiners notes on the rejection of claim 2.

In regards to claim 6 see examiners notes on the rejection of claim 2.

Claims 2, 3, and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over (USPN 4,937,676 to Finelli et al.) in view of (USPN 5,231,511 to Kodama et al.).

In regards to claim 2 Finelli does not disclose nor preclude having a supplementary power source additionally attachable to the camera. It is known in the art to provide a supplementary power source to a camera through attachment as taught by Kodama et al, herein Kodama. Kodama discloses attaching a player device that is used to both supply power to the camera and to recharge the camera battery (e.g., column 6, lines 37-41; 56-60; column 7, line 62 – column 8, line 10; column 8, lines 50-62; column 9, lines 3-29). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have further included the ability to connect to a player as disclosed by Kodama in order to further extend the battery life of the camera and provide an output of image data to a TV.

In regards to claim 3 see examiners notes on the rejection of claim 2.

In regards to claim 6 see examiners notes on the rejection of claim 2.

Claims 3, and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over (USPN 6,091,909 to McIntyre et al.) in view of (USPN 5,231,511 to Kodama et al.).

In regards to claim 3 McIntyre does not disclose nor preclude that the batteries 34 would recharge the main battery. Kodama discloses a player attachable to a digital camera wherein when connected to the digital camera the player recharges the main battery so as to extend the

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battery life of the digital camera (e.g., column 9, lines 3-29). Therefore it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to have added the provision that McIntyre's print cartridge with batteries would recharge the main battery so as to increase the battery life of the digital camera.

In regards to claim 4 not that there are a plurality of batteries 34 as shown in Figs. 3 and 4.

Claims 5 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over (USPN 4,937,676 to Finelli et al.).

Finelli discloses a self-developing film printer. Finelli does not disclose the limitations of claim 5 wherein a print head moves parallel to the recording surface or that the printer is a thermal printer. Examiner notes that one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made would recognize to have used an ink jet printer or a thermal printer instead since in the combined camera and printer art it is equivalent to print a photograph using self-developing film and print a photograph using an ink jet printer or a thermal printer. Official Notice is taken. Therefore it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to have selected of any of these known equivalents since it would be within the level of ordinary skill in the art.

Claims 5 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over (USPN 5,606,420 to Maeda et al.).

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Maeda discloses a thermal printer. Maeda does not disclose the limitations of claims 5 and 7 as in an ink jet printer or printing using self-developing film respectively. Examiner notes that one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made would recognize to have used a ink jet printer or self-developing film instead since in the combined camera and printer art it is equivalent to print a photograph using a thermal printer and print a photograph using an ink jet printer or self developing film. Official Notice is taken. Therefore it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to have selected of any of these known equivalents since it would be within the level of ordinary skill in the art.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over (USPN 4,937,676 to Finelli et al.).

In regards to claim 10 Finelli discloses that the memory be an EPROM memory card. Finelli does not disclose nor preclude that the memory be a hard disk. It is extremely well known in the camera art to use compact hard disks as an alternative to a memory card so as to further provide additional storage space. Official Notice is taken. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have made Finelli's memory card a compact hard disk in order to further provide additional storage space.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian C. Genco who can be reached by phone at 703-305-7881 or

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by fax at 703-746-8325. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Thursday 7:30am to 4:30 pm and every other Friday 7:30am to 3:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Christensen can be reached on 703-308-9644. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9314 for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the technology center 2600 customer service office whose telephone number is 703-306-0377.

Brian C Genco
Examiner
Art Unit 2615

October 6, 2003



ANDREW CHRISTENSEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600